

**State Noxious Weed Advisory Committee Meeting**  
Friday, November 18, 2011 (original date: October 26, 2011)  
Colo. Dept. of Agriculture, 700 Kipling St., 4th Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

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The meeting was called to order by Chair, Susan Panjabi at 9:44 AM.

Members in attendance: Susan Panjabi, Terri Schulz, Don Hajar, Ben Duke, Fred Midcap, Ed Norden,  
Karen Scopel, Sheila Grother, Fran Pannebaker, Randy Malcom

Members excused: George Beck, Louis Bridges, Jack Flowers, Phyllis Lake, Ken Harper

Staff present: CDA: Steve Ryder, State Weed Coordinator, Patty York, EDRR Specialist and Maurina Paradise, Program Assistant

1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Susan welcomed all, particularly new members, and roundtable introductions followed.
2. Review Agenda
  - a. No changes to the existing agenda were suggested
3. Review minutes from August 17-18, 2011 meeting
  - a. Five changes made; final minutes will be posted to website
  - b. Karen moved to approve changes made, Sheila seconded, seeing no discussion motion went to vote, all in favor, motion carried.
4. Follow up items
  - a. Chufa/yellow nutsedge letter
    - i. Steve has completed letter. Susan Panjabi and Terri Schulz will review and give final OK for distribution to interested parties addressed on letter.
  - b. Spurge alert letter to green industry
    - i. Science committee will assist Patty with writing of letter. Want to be clear that some sparges are OK (and/or native) and back up with scientific data. Once letter is finalized, outreach committee will assist with writing an article and submitting to industry publication.
  - c. Plant Select program update
    - i. Steve to get language of Seed & Nursery Act, and with Laura Pottorff by 6/1/12 meet with CSU Horticulture and Botanic Gardens to learn more about the Plant Select program and what they do to assess plants. Committee's main question is if they are testing/ examining for invasive potential (i.e. do they examine seed longevity, viability, and spread).
5. Follow up discussion of Spruce Gulch field trip
  - a. Committee wants to keep eye on the area but is comfortable with the level of attention and effort being put forth there by USFS and Boulder County (for now). Most of the area is following the rules of the Weed Act but edges of the spotted knapweed areas need to be watched. The field trip helped bridge gulf between USFS and CDA noxious weed program.

- b. Terri recommended that next meeting's agenda includes discussion on enforcement issues and waiver situations. A list of questions was generated.
- 6. Orientation for new committee members: Noxious weed program, advisory committee duties, subcommittees.
  - a. Discussion of setting committee goals for 2012
  - b. Discussion of sunset law provision in the Weed Act. The Committee expires in 2013, requiring an extension request to the legislature in 2012.
  - c. Section 108.7 outlines committee functions, interests to be represented, geographic representation and staggered appointments.
- 7. Review and discussion of subcommittee structure and functions
  - a. Susan went over structure of subcommittees and offered to discuss any changes since current structure was set in 2009.
  - b. Current subcommittees: Executive, Weed Science and Management, Site Led Approach, Funding and Policy, Communication and Education, EDRR.
  - c. Randy proposed changing to: Weed Science and Management (includes EDRR and Site Led Approach), Funding & Partnership, and Policy and Enforcement; with the understanding that communication and education are components to all subcommittees.
  - d. After discussion, the proposed changes were accepted and members signed up for sub-committees and will work to develop goals for the year. Steve will create draft directions and goals for the new sub-committees for discussion and approval at the January 2012 meeting.
  - e. Executive Subcommittee: Susan Panjabi, Chair; Karen Scopel, Vice-Chair; and Randy Malcom, Secretary.
- 8. Demonstration and discussion of new weed mapping/reporting system
  - a. Information presented by Patty York, EDRR specialist. Ed suggested the system be presented to Colorado Counties, Inc., at its summer meeting; Sheila volunteered to fill out quarter-quadrant data for all species in San Miguel County
- 9. CDA's organic certification program; relationship to noxious weed program – presentation and discussion
  - a. Crystal Andrews, CDA Organic Certification Program. This is a federal USDA program – the states are the certifying entities. There is no explicit rule regarding organic certification and noxious weeds – weed control is mentioned, but no “noxious” component. There is no enforcement component, although the state can initiate enforcement. Organic program staff will coordinate with Noxious Weed program staff as much as possible.
- 10. Assessing aquatic terrestrial invasives
  - a. Terri proposed that CDA consider using a different assessment tool for aquatic invasive species. This tool uses the New Zealand model of aquatic invasiveness that has been found to provide a 90% accurate assessment and has been found to be very useful where used. However, it would need to be modified for use in Colorado.
  - b. Terri proposed that the Science subcommittee review this tool to see if it may be an improvement for assessing aquatic species.
  - c. Terri's suggestion was accepted by the committee.
- 11. State weed coordinator update
  - a. Weed grants; Forest Service grants

- i. \$220,000 from Ag Management fund distributed to various programs; all but one will be closed by the end of the year.
    - ii. Forest Service grants are 18 month grants; \$303,000 was granted to CDA (most of it is passed through, but this amount includes EDRR position). This is a 5% reduction from last year. There will likely be a 5% to 10% reduction next year (FY 2012). For FY 2013 additional cuts could be upwards of a 40%.
  - b. Noxious Weed Team
    - i. A long-standing MOU (memo of understanding) exists between federal and state agencies, with the purpose of maintaining a forum for communication and collaboration on noxious weed management in the state across jurisdictional boundaries. Steve/CDA is the convener of this team.
  - c. Potential legislation for upcoming General Assembly session
    - i. CWMA is proposing legislation to have noxious weed management included in the tax form “check off” to raise money for statewide noxious weed control.
    - ii. A second CWMA proposal is to update the Pest Control Act with what CWMA considers “housekeeping” changes; no further details at this time.
  - d. Ag commission met and adopted updated rule as proposed but it must now go through the Secretary of State’s office to be finalized. We will start discussing the 2012 Rule update at the January 2012 meeting.
- 12. Next Meeting Dates:
  - a. January 31, 2012, Lakewood (firm)
  - b. Tentative: May 10-11, La Junta area; August 23-24, Fort Collins; October (date based on Ag Commission meeting), Lakewood.
- 13. The meeting was adjourned by Chair Susan Panjabi (motioned by Terri Schulz, Randy Malcom seconded, passed unanimously) at 3:18 p.m.